

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
"Creating Community Through People, Parks and Programs"



September 28, 2004

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS
FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY
RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM FOR THE ALTADENA CREST TRAIL
AND TRANS CATALINA TRAIL PROJECTS
(Fourth and Fifth Districts- 3 Vote Matter)**

**JOINT RECOMMENDATION WITH THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER THAT
YOUR BOARD:**

1. Find the proposed projects and applications exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
2. Find the proposed projects and applications in compliance with the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) as categorical exclusions.
3. Adopt the attached Resolution authorizing the Department to submit applications for the proposed Altadena Crest Trail and Trans Catalina Trail projects with the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation, for funding through the Recreational Trails Program under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century.
4. Authorize and accept, contingent upon an award of grant funding, the project grant award and the grant agreement for the proposed projects.
5. Authorize the Director of Parks and Recreation, or his designee, as agent of the County, to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to, project grant agreement(s), amendments, and payment requests, which may be necessary for the completion of the projects.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adoption of the attached resolution by your Board will authorize the Department (Department) to submit applications to the State Department of Parks and Recreation for funding through the Recreational Trails Program under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, for the Altadena Crest Trail and the Trans Catalina Trail projects. The applications must include a resolution by your Board authorizing the applications. Project applications are due October 1, 2004.

The Recreational Trails Program, which is funded by the Federal Highway Administration and administered by the State, provides funds annually for recreational trails and trail-related projects. This year, \$2.2 million is available through the competitive grant process statewide.

In determining the projects to be submitted to the State, the Department reviewed and assessed various facility needs throughout the County relative to the eligibility requirements, project feasibility and probability for funding based on the competitive criteria. Two projects were determined to be eligible and feasible at this time.

Altadena Crest Trail

The proposed project scope consists of the refurbishment of a 3-mile, 12-foot wide equestrian trail and staging area to include the installation of drinking fountains, horse troughs, pedestrian gates and landscaping; erosion control and trail shoring; re-vegetation with native plants; identification and trail marker signs; and interpretive signage. The total cost for these improvements is estimated at \$99,960.

Trans Catalina Trail

The proposed project scope consists of the refurbishment of a hiking trail to include ADA compliant, elevated boardwalks in wetland areas, a rest area and interpretive signage. The total cost for these improvements is estimated at \$137,085.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Upon completion, the proposed projects will contribute to the achievement of three goals of the County's Strategic Plan: Goal 4 (Fiscal Responsibility) by increasing the Department's public-private partnerships, managing our resources effectively, and investing in the public infrastructure; Goal 5 (Children and Families' Well-Being) by improving the good health, economic well-being, safety and survival, emotional and social well-being, and educational/workforce readiness of the children and families of the County; and Goal 6 (Community Services) by improving the quality of life for residents by offering a wide range of services responsive to each community's specific needs.

FISCAL IMPACT/ FINANCING

The Recreational Trails Program requires a 20 percent match of funds from a non-federal source. The local match may include local, State, or private funds, as well as materials and services. No minimum or maximum grant funding amount has been assigned under this program.

The estimated cost for the Altadena Crest Trail project is \$99,960 and the grant amount requested is \$79,968. The 20 percent match of \$19,992 is available under C.P. No. 86587 in the 2004-05 Capital Refurbishment budget.

The estimated cost for the Trans Catalina Trail project is \$137,750 and the grant amount requested is \$110,200. The 20 percent match of \$27,750 will be from "in-kind" services provided by the Catalina Island Conservancy, primarily consisting of volunteer labor to construct the project.

Operating Budget Impact

Operating cost estimates for the Altadena Crest Trail project are under development by the Department and CAO and will be reported to your Board prior to the acceptance of a grant.

Upon completion of the improvements for the Trans Catalina Trail, any start up costs or annual, ongoing costs for salaries, employee benefits and supplies associated with maintenance and operation of the improvements will be incurred by the Catalina Island Conservancy, requiring no expenditure of County funds.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS / LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Upon execution of a project grant agreement, the Department will be required to spend those funds in accordance with the Grantor's procedural guide and the project grant agreement. The grant recipient is expected to complete the project in the time identified in the project proposal. Each contract will have a project performance period of four years.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the resolution as to form.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The projects are categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) according to Section 15301 (h) 15303 (d) (e), 15304 (a) (b) (c) of the State CEQA guidelines and Classes 1 (j), 3 (a) (b), 4 (a) (c) (m) of the *Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines* adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987, because the project involves maintenance of existing landscaping and native

growth, water main extension, accessory structures, grading on land with a slope of less than 10 percent, new gardening and landscaping, and filling of earth into previously excavated land with materials compatible with the site. The projects are also in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) as Categorical Exclusions in accordance with 40 CFR 1508.4 and 33d CFR230.9.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES AND PROJECTS

There are no impacts on current services as a result of this action. If funding is awarded, the projects will be accomplished so as to minimize the impact on public use of the affected facilities.

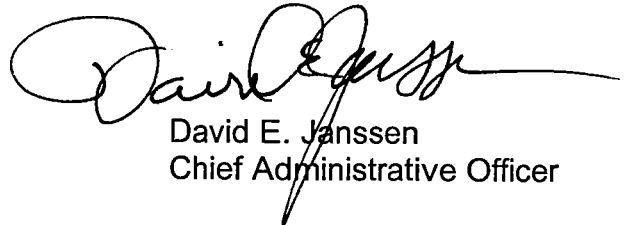
CONCLUSION

Upon approval by your Board, please instruct the Executive Office, Clerk of the Board to forward one conformed copy to the Chief Administrative Office, Capital Projects Division, and two (2) conformed copies of this letter and the two original resolutions to the Department of Parks and Recreation by September 29, 2004 for completion of the grant application packets.

Respectfully submitted,



Russ Guiney
Interim Director



David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

RG:KC:fc(BOS.BLS_Resos.RTP.2004)

Attachments

c: Executive Office (22)
Chief Administrative Office
County Counsel

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

**APPROVING THE APPLICATION OF GRANT FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF
CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM
UNDER THE TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT FOR THE 21ST CENTURY
FOR THE ALTADENA CREST TRAIL AND TRANS CATALINA TRAIL PROJECTS**

WHEREAS, the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (a Federal Program) provides funds to the State of California for grants to state, local and non-profit organizations to acquire, develop and/or maintain motorized and non-motorized trail purposes; and

WHEREAS, the State Department of Parks and Recreation (Grantor) has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of the program within the State, setting up necessary procedures governing project application under the program; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the State Department of Parks and Recreation require the County of Los Angeles (Grantee) to certify by resolution the approval of application(s) and the availability of eligible matching funds before submission of said application(s) to the State; and

WHEREAS, the proposed projects are categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and qualify for categorical exclusions from the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA); and

WHEREAS, the applicant will enter into an agreement with the State of California to complete the Altadena Crest Trail and Trans Catalina Trail projects;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors:

1. Approves the filing of an application for the Recreational Trails Program; and
2. Certifies that said applicant has or will have available prior to commencement of any work on the project(s) included in this application, sufficient funds and in-kind services, to 100 percent finance, operate and maintain the project(s); and
3. Appoints the Interim Director of Parks and Recreation or his designee, as agent of the County of Los Angeles to accept the grants, conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to, applications, contracts, agreements, amendments, payment requests and so on, and compliance will all applicable current state and federal laws which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned projects.

The foregoing resolution was on the ____ day of _____, 2004, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies, and authorities for which said Board so acts.

VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS, Executive Office,
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
of the County of Los Angeles

By _____
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

By Francis E. Scott
for Helen Parker, Principal Deputy

Los Angeles County Chief Administrative Office

Grant Management Statement for Grants \$100,000-or More

Department: Parks + Recreation

Grant Project Title and Description

Trans Catalina Trail: Refurbishment of a hiking trail to include 200' of new, ADA compliant, elevated boardwalk in wetland areas and interpretive signage.

Funding Agency

State of Calif.

Program (Fed. Grant #/State Bill or Code #)

Recreational Trails Program

Grant Acceptance Deadline

Oct. 1, 2004

Total Amount of Grant Funding: \$ 110,200

County Match: NA (Match provided by Conservancy)

Grant Period: July 2005 - June 2009

Begin Date: July 2005

End Date: June 2009

Number of Personnel Hired Under This Grant:

Full Time: 0

Part Time: 0

Obligations Imposed on the County When the Grant Expires

Will all personnel hired for this program be informed this is a grant-funded program?	Yes	<u>No</u> NA
Will all personnel hired for this program be placed on temporary ("N") items?	Yes	No NA
Is the County obligated to continue this program after the grant expires?	<u>Yes</u>	No
If the County is not obligated to continue this program after the grant expires, the Department will:		NA
a.) Absorb the program cost without reducing other services	Yes	No NA
b.) Identify other revenue sources (describe below)	Yes	No NA
c.) Eliminate or reduce, as appropriate, positions/program costs funded by the grant.	Yes	No NA

Impact of additional personnel on existing space:

No additional county personnel will be hired under this grant.

Other requirements not mentioned above:

Catalina Island Conservancy is required to manage & maintain the facility.

Department Head Signature /

[Signature]

Date: _____